

This petition has one valid concept - taking the nubmer of license classes to two. This might be worth considering except that it would remove the entry level license from availability. The idea of increasing the 15WPM Morse exam is merely another attempt to go backwards. The higher speed Morse requirement does not add any value to an Amateur license, since Morse is rapidly declining in use apart from contests and special interest groups. During recent emergency response activities Morse played no part in any of the Amateur activity. Morse may be valid as a curiosity, for use by those who want to use it, but it no longer has any real value or attraction for the Amateur community at large. This can be seen in the recent decision made at the WARC conference to remove the Morse requirement from the treaty.